

Richmond Club Wakes Another Pitcher for Pitcher Avers of Clif

RICHMOND CLUB WANTS AYERS FROM NATIONALS

Manager Steve Griffin to See Climbers' Leader in This City This Afternoon—Kelly Harris Sold to the Ottawa Club.

By C. W. SWAN.

It was learned from Richmond last night that Steve Griffin, manager of the Richmond Colts, would leave for Washington early this morning to see Manager Griffin in hopes of securing the release of Dr. Ayers, the mainstay of the Colts' 1912 pitching staff, who has been suspended by Manager Griffin for failing to report at Charlottesville.

Richmond needs pitchers, and needs them badly. Manager Griffin is in hopes of getting Ayers from the Nationals, as he is sure that Ayers will prove a winner again for the Richmond club. Just what Griffin will do in regard to the matter is hard to say.

Ayers was warned and told to report on time. He failed to show up, and was warned again. When the youngster still refused to report, Manager Griffin placed him on the black list.

May Get Ayers.

While it is unlikely that Griffin will release Ayers to the Colts unconditionally, he may allow the youngster to work with the Colts under an optional agreement. Ayers showed signs of developing into a good man, as Jack Ryan, who looked him over for the Nationals, said that he showed promise. Griffin signed him late in the fall, and when he failed to report caused a little disappointment among the Nationals.

Kelly Harris, the local boy who was fighting for the second base job with the Colts, has been released to Ottawa, of the Canadian League. The following dispatch explains the situation:

FOUR MANAGERS HAVE PENNANT PROSPECTS

Fans of the Different American League Clubs Have Hopes for Leaders.

Of the eight managers in the American League at least four believe they have a chance to win the pennant and the world's championship. The fans of their clubs have hopes almost as strong. Jake Stahl, in Boston, of course, expects to repeat this season. Connie Mack, who led the world's champion Athletics for two years before Jake Stahl won, is confident his team will stand up to its old form. Clark Griffith, of the Nationals, who made a wonderful showing with his team last season, believes he can make one more step and win the pennant. His mainstay is Walter Johnson, hailed by many thousands of fans over the country as the greatest pitcher in baseball. Jennings, in Detroit, has not such high hopes in the past.

Ty Cobb, the most valuable player in baseball, had not up to today signed with the club for the 1913 season. Cobb demands a salary of \$15,000, the largest amount ever asked by a ball player. President Navin, of the club, has said, time and again, that the business in Detroit does not warrant such a salary.

Chance, in New York, hopes to get into the first division this year, and will be content if he succeeds. Of course, Connelley's White Sox must be reckoned with, and they may be well up in the race. Birmingham and St. Louis, in Cleveland and St. Louis, may show something.

NOTES OF THE GAME.

Muller opened the game with a dandy two-bash smash to left center, but was caught trying to steal third base.

A foul tip from Annin's bat split Ed Sweeney's right index finger in the Nationals' second inning. How hard he hit the ball, Sweeney is liable to be on the bench for two weeks.

It was Russell Ford's first start this season, and the spiral finger appeared to have a lot of stuff.

Bert Davidson deliberately shored out his shoulder and let one of Russell's shots gain his shirt in the York's third inning, paving the way for the Yorks' first run.

Annin struck out Williams in the fifth after the Yorks' out had taken three balls.

Poor Joe Engel, the fifth inning was as far as he could get in his first start of the 1913 season. Better luck next time, Joe.

John Henry returned from his home in Amherst in time to don top. Griffin allowed the collegian to spend Sunday with the folks.

Annin sent in the Yorks when the Yorks came to bat in the seventh—Mittell for Young and Jack Leifert for Ford, but Long Tom quickly sent them back to the bench.

Shanks tried to steal home in the eighth when Muller was on first, but Flier was too quick for him, and the Monza marvel was run down between the plate and the first base.

The crowd was generous enough to give Shanks a good hand when he negotiated that sensational shoestring catch in the Yorks' eighth inning.

The value goes up with the volume. We're making Ford cars better as we make more of them—that's the reason we can't keep pace with the demand. Insure yourself against disappointment by getting your Ford today.

Our great factory has produced nearly a quarter of a million Model T's. Prices: Runabout, \$525; Touring Car, \$600; Town Car, \$800—f. o. b. Detroit with all equipment.

For particulars get "Ford Times"—an interesting automobile magazine. It's free from Miller Bros. Automobile and Supply House.

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MAJOR LEAGUE HURLERS ARE HITTERS

Big Circuits Boast of a Great Number of Slab Artists Who Are Good Batsmen.

WALTER JOHNSON IS A SWATTER

Now and then some baseball manager or writer comes before the public with the suggestion that the pitchers be relieved of the formality of batting, arguing that most of the pitchers are dunces in the art of batting, anyway, and should be allowed to stick to their department of the game—attempting to deceive the batters.

You do not hear this argument advanced quite as often as in the days gone by, for the simple reason that the pitchers themselves are exploding the theory that they cannot connect with the twirls of their adversaries.

Take the really good pitchers and you will find that few of them confine their efforts to pitching. The star pitchers are not all-around players, but they are not dunces either.

They do not depend entirely upon the cunning and strength of their salary arms. They know how to field, and to do with skill. They know how to bat, and demonstrate their ability along that line when put to the test.

Joe Wood led the American League pitchers in victories. He batted .290, his hits including thirteen doubles, a triple, and a home run. He made but four errors in the forty-three games.

Our own Eddie Plank, who lost but six games, ranking next to Wood, batted .297, and fielded without an error.

Walter Johnson, the pitching marvel, hit .264, six doubles, four triples and two homers going to his credit. He fielded his position splendidly, Jack Coombs, who won 22 and lost 10 games, batted .232 and did not make a fielding error.

Jean Dubuc, of the Tigers, led his teammates in victories, batted .276 and erred but three times. McConnell, of the Yankees, hit .297, while Russell Ford batted .266. The two led the Yankees hurlers in victories. Ford was also among the leaders in fielding.

Fred Blanding was the Naps' most consistent performer. He batted .266 and hit .266, and did not make a fielding error.

Hendryx, the leading pitcher of the National League, led his collection of drives including ten doubles, six triples and one four-bagger. Mathewson, Crandall, Wilgus, Camnitz, Rucker, Brennan and Crandall also batted well and ranked high as fielders as well.

It goes to show that classless, Had Joe Wood, Russell Ford, Ed Walsh, Hendryx, Walter Johnson, Coombs or Plank elected to play in the outfield, the chances are that they would have succeeded, providing they had brought the same energy to bear upon their work that they devoted to pitching.

Win and Lose One.

The Victor Juniors lost their first game of the season to the Highland Juniors, 10 to 6. The features of the game were the pitching of Noon for the winners and the pitching of P. Dennean and the batting of Higgins and Farley for the losers.

The afternoon game was very interesting. J. Dennean was the feature of the performance, striking out twelve men, also the batting of Fabrizio, R. Higgins, McGill and Farley. A sensational hit was made by Dennean in the last inning. Score:

Victor Juniors..... 6
Highland Juniors..... 10

Score: Victor Juniors..... 6
Highland Juniors..... 10

Score: Victor Juniors..... 6
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Highland Juniors..... 10

CENTRAL DEFEATED.

Gallaudet Wins Practice Game by 8 to 5 Count.

Gallaudet won another practice game yesterday, Central High tasting defeat, 8 to 5. Lapides worked six innings for the Buff and Blue, and pitched good ball.

Rasmussen was shoved in for the last two frames. Milton and Buck worked on the mound for Central. Milton was hammered hard in the first two innings. Randall and Edington starred for the winners. Score:

Gallaudet AB..... 8
Central AB..... 5

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MURPHY'S BASEBALL REPUTATION AT STAKE

Major League Campaign of 1913 Will Test Club Owner's Ability as a Boss.

ALL DEPENDS ON JOHNNY EVERS

Under Chance the Cubs were great, always a pennant contender. Evers can scarcely fall short of this mark without censure.

The summer of 1913 may be pleasant for Owner Charles Murphy, of the Chicago Cubs, and then it may be decidedly unpleasant. Much of Murphy's baseball reputation is staked on the outcome of the year's campaign.

If Johnny Evers comes across and makes a big showing with the Cubs, Murphy will be in a position to receive compliments upon his shrewdness in changing managers.

If Frank Chance fails notably with New York more praise will be coming Murphy's way.

If Joe Tinker is unable to satisfy Cincinnati fans, Murphy will have a perfect right to remark, "I told you so." The odds, however, are somewhat against Murphy.

Chance has little material in New York apparently. Baseball men do not expect him to cut a very wide swath with the team this year.

Lots of improvements may be made with the Yankees. Chance is sure to do better and will come in for plenty of credit. Almost anything he does with the team will be an improvement over the showing of his predecessor, who is expected to lose and everything to gain in Gotham.

Murphy can scarcely expect to laugh at the expense of the "Peerless Leader."

The release of Chance is a move in the more difficult. Possibly Joe will startle the natives, but it hardly seems fair to expect Tinker to improve the position of the team last year, fourth, during his first season as manager.

Tinker needs pitching material. Frequently last season Manager O'Day was heard to lament the lack of classy pitching.

If Tinker is so fortunate as to develop a couple of young pitchers who can go the route, the Red fans may be singing his praise as late as November.

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ROSCOE MILLER, FORMER TIGER, DIES IN WANT

New Albany, Ind., April 19.—Roscoe Miller, who pitched several seasons with Detroit in the American League and with New York and Pittsburgh in the National League, died today at his home near Corydon, Ind., of tuberculosis. (News Item.)

News of the death of Roscoe Miller, near Corydon, Ind., his home, will awaken memories in the minds of Detroit fans who recall the somewhat sensational career of the former Washington pitcher, and extremely rapid decline of a pitcher who at one time promised to be one of the brightest luminaries of major league baseball. Miller had but one really successful season, that from a good year in the minors. His luck left him when he deserted the club that had given him the first chance, Detroit, and the only town in which he ever completed a major league season.

It was in 1901, the year that the American League invaded the East, that Miller gained recognition as a coming star. Detroit carried a small pitching staff that year, Miller, Slevin, Cronin, and Tiers, being the only ones with whom the strongest right-hander in the lot. He had much to do with placing the team third in the race. Detroit that year was one of the best cards of the circuit, because of its speed and its fighting qualities. It had Dillon, Giesler, Elberfeld, and Casey on the infield and Barrett, Holmes, and Nance in the gardens. Buelow and McAllister did most of the catching.

Couldn't Bear Success. Miller's success, in a way, went to his head, and he was easily susceptible to advances that were made to him the next year, when National League emissaries sought to induce him to jump. He was induced to believe that Detroit was not using him as it should, and when the Baltimore blow-off came, most of the players of that team going to New York or to Cincinnati with Kelley, Miller, who was at Washington with the Tigers, was induced to join with them, jumped to the Giants. And that move was the real end of his career.

With New York he was never able to do any of the pitching that had enabled him to win games for Detroit. Before the season was ended he was given his release. Pittsburgh claimed him, but his stay with the Pirates was brief, and he was not listed among those who finished the year. That ended his career in the majors. He went to the minors, and had one season in which his work was so good that it looked as if he had come back. But no one who was looking for pitchers seemed to have faith in him. He was left in the little leagues. Miller became moody and dependent over his failure to get back, took to dissipation, and was soon on the road whose end was reached yesterday, when tuberculosis finally claimed him.

Victim of Dissipation. Last spring Miller went to Virginia, and tried to make a place on a minor league club. He was let out after a brief trial. He made his way to Washington, the nearest major league town, to seek work from some of the players he had known in his better days. He was down and out, and penniless. Griffin was

about the only man who had been in the American League with Miller. But he got a little aid from the Washington players, and from other persons who had known him in his better days, and was enabled to subsist until the Tigers came along.

Of the Detroit players, Mullin was the only one who had been on the club with Miller. But his case was presented to enable the player to get to his home, and to pay some little debts that he had contracted. He went West, and was not heard from again until yesterday, when the news of his death was sent out over the wires.

HAVRE DE GRACE RESULTS.

FIRST RACE—Three-year-olds and upward; selling: four and one-half furlongs. Royal Message, 107 (Robbie), 6 to 5; Partner, 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; second: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; third: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; fourth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; fifth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; sixth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; seventh: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; eighth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; ninth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; tenth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; eleventh: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; twelfth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; thirteenth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; fourteenth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; fifteenth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; sixteenth: 107 (Dorinda), 20 to 1; seventeenth: 107 (Dorinda), 2